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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## I-90/Division Street Interchange project details to be presented at Open House

The Washington State Department of Transportation will hold an Open House to present details on an upcoming project for the Interstate 90/Division Street Interchange.

The Open House is scheduled for Thursday, July 24, 2003 at the Budget Inn, located at 110 East Fourth in Spokane. The meeting hours are from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Interested citizens are invited to drop by at any time during the Open House to review maps and displays of the project. The project engineering staff will be on hand to discuss aspects of the project, answer your questions, and get your input.

The Department is in the final design process for refinements to the Division Street Interchange on Interstate 90. The purpose of this project is revise the eastbound portion of the interchange, adding a new eastbound on-ramp, making minor revisions to the eastbound off-ramp, plus changing some of the traffic patterns and parking on several adjacent city streets.

This project is under consideration to help alleviate air quality concerns in downtown Spokane. Currently, motorists who access eastbound I-90 from Division Street south of I-90 must travel north on division to Second Avenue, then west on Second, and then turn south on Browne Street to the eastbound on-ramp. This movement results in higher levels of pollutants that result from this traffic pattern. The addition of an eastbound on ramp that is accessed directly from the intersection of Fourth and Division will eliminate this circuitous route and should assist in reducing pollution levels.